

Amendments to Claims

This Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Withdrawn- Currently Amended) Laminated strip, in particular decorative strip, comprising an upper layer (12) consisting of metal, preferably of aluminum, whose upper face (22) has ~~[[an]]~~a structure in the form of a three-dimensional relief (18) and whose underside (24) is provided with a reinforcement layer (14), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

the reinforcement layer (14) is made of plastic and the reinforcement layer is extrusion-coated on the upper layer (12), which already carries an embossed structure in relief (18).

20. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that the structure in relief has sharp edges.

21. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that the upper layer (12) has a thickness of ≤ 1 mm, preferably ≤ 0.4 mm.

22. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that the structure in relief (18) has a depth of ≤ 0.5 mm, preferably ≤ 0.2 mm.

23. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that the reinforcement layer (14) has a thickness of ≤ 1 mm, preferably ≤ 0.6 mm.

24. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that the reinforcement layer (14) contains fibers, preferably mineral fibers, for reinforcement.

25. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that the reinforcement layer (14) comprises polyvinylchloride (PVC), acrylnitrilbutadienstyrol (ABS), polyamide (PA) or polypropylene (PP).

26. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that an additional, transparent plastic layer (16) is arranged on the upper face of the upper layer (12), which preferably comprises polyvinylchloride (PVC), acrylnitrilbutadienstyrol (ABS), polyamide (PA) or polypropylene (PP).

27. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 26, characterized in that the additional plastic layer (16) has a thickness of ≤ 0.5 mm, preferably of ≤ 0.2 mm.

28. (Withdrawn) Strip in accordance with Claim 19, characterized in that a protective varnish is applied to the upper face (22) of the upper layer (12) and/or an adhesive varnish is applied to the underside (24) of the upper layer (12).

29. (Currently Amended) Method for the production of a laminated strip, in particular a decorative strip, comprising an upper layer consisting of metal (12), preferably of aluminum ~~in accordance with claim 19~~ with the method comprising the following steps:

- a. Inserting a thin metal strip (12') into an embossing unit (30) to form the upper layer and embossing a structure in the form of a three-dimensional relief (18) into the upper face (22) of the upper layer (12), and
- b. then extrusion-coating a reinforcement layer consisting of plastic (24) on the upper layer (12).

30. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 29, characterized in that the reinforcement layer (14) is attached directly after embossing of the structure in relief (18), with the upper layer (12) passing through at least one buffer arrangement (50) after the embossing and prior to attaching the reinforcement layer (14).

31. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 30, characterized in that the upper layer (12) runs like a loop in the area of the buffer arrangement (50).

32. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 29, characterized in that step (b) comprises the extrusion-coating of an additional plastic layer (16).

33. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 29, characterized in that a protective varnish is applied on the upper face (22) of the upper layer (12) prior to embossing the structure in relief.

34. (Previously Presented) Method in accordance with Claim 29, characterized in that an adhesive varnish is applied to the underside (24) of the upper layer (12) prior to embossing the structure in relief (18).